

### **Background information about the MSC Work Plan**

The Work Plan evolved from the desire to share the current work in progress by member libraries. Holly Harper, school librarian at Whitehall School and Executive Board Member, became aware of other libraries' recruitment efforts while she was working to implement a recruitment project in her area. It became apparent to Holly that, in order to support and streamline individual efforts, there was a need to share information and network with other libraries that had completed similar projects. She proposed sharing and networking between member libraries at the MSC Membership Spring 2015 meeting. From the original intent to share works in progress among members, the term "work plan" came into use. That, in turn, led to the generation of ideas for future work that would correspond with the work being done by the Montana Shared Catalog Staff. We have struggled with the desire to bring awareness of works in progress to members' attention while responding to the need for future work to complement the Montana Shared Catalog's current Strategic Plan.

As your MSC Board, we have determined that as both pieces – the work plan and the ideas for future work - are useful to our present and future development, we need to incorporate both into a Cooperative Work Chart for Member Libraries.

The Montana Shared Catalog Executive Board recognizes the need for member input to share what libraries are doing that may be useful to other libraries, to reveal collaborative efforts in progress between libraries, and to direct the future work of member libraries. We also clearly understand that we can only complete work that is, first, within the scope of the board and, second, is outside of the work being accomplished by the MSC staff. Our current plan is to update the Work-In-Progress section of the chart, with member input, on a quarterly basis. The chart will also include up to three yearly Special Projects under Consideration as determined by membership input through a yearly questionnaire and board prioritization.